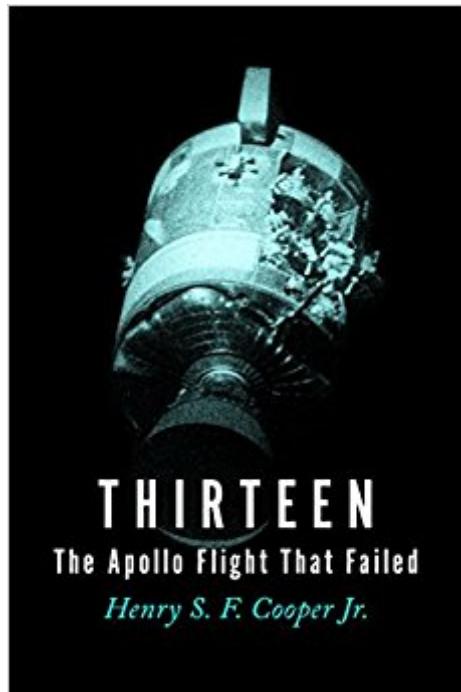


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Thirteen: The Apollo Flight That Failed



Synopsis

An exciting minute-by-minute account of the Apollo 13 flight based on mission control transcripts from Houston (The New York Times). On the evening of April 13, 1970, the three astronauts aboard Apollo 13 were just hours from the third lunar landing in history. But as they soared through space, two hundred thousand miles from earth, an explosion badly damaged their spacecraft. With compromised engines and failing life-support systems, the crew was in incomparably grave danger. Faced with below-freezing temperatures, a seriously ill crew member, and a dwindling water supply, a safe return seemed unlikely. Thirteen is the shocking, miraculous, and entirely true story of how the astronauts and ground crew guided Apollo 13 to a safe landing on earth. Expanding on dispatches written for the New Yorker, Henry S. F. Cooper Jr. brings readers unparalleled detail on the moment-by-moment developments of one of NASA's most dramatic missions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The author could have benefited from a more aggressive editor, but it captures the event, the

challenges, and the incredible amount of work that was done down here and aboard Apollo 13. It's a quick read, but it details the causes for the explosion and clearly explains the technical challenges faced by mission control in trying to figure out what was happening aboard the spacecraft without benefit of telemetry signals.

No surprise ending, but enthralling none the less.

It definitely wasn't what I expected. I thought it would be more like the movie. Instead it was much more technical and a real tribute to all the engineers who worked day and night to get the crew home. I'm glad they got the recognition they so rightly deserved. It was a little too technical for me, hence 4 instead of 5 stars.

You really need to read this book on what actually happened on Apollo 13 and the ground scientists. It was frustrating for everyone. No one saw this coming: a disaster in real life. It was a nail-biter. So many things could wrong. Better than the movie. True to life action.

As an engineer, I found it very interesting. May be too dry for average reader.

A wonderful account. Truly amazing details.

This was a relatively quick read, full of action and commentary about the Apollo 13 mission. Because it was a relatively quick read, it almost had the feel of a movie to me. I had expected a longer book with a lot more detail. However, I found the pace and the level of detail enjoyable. This was an interesting read to me that filled in a lot of the holes from the Apollo 13 movie and focused on the story in Mission Control. I had no idea the types of calculations that needed to be done to bring a spacecraft back, nor the number of people that were needed to do those calculations. I recommend this book to anyone who wanted to know more about this mission. The only bad thing that I can say about this book was that I was surprised at the number of spelling and punctuation errors.

Very well written and a great read. The best account of the Apollo 13 mission I have read. Highly recommended!

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